AFCARS ASSESSMENT REVIEW IMPROVEMENT PLAN –
GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
State: California
Report Period Under Review: April 1, 2002 – September 30, 2002

REQUIREMENT	RATING FACTOR	TASK	DATE COMPLETED	COMMENTS
POPULATION REQUIREMENTS	2			
Foster care				
1. Out of State placements. The State making the placement submits the information on the child (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(2)).		1. Modify the program code to ensure that children placed in California from another State are not included in the State's reporting population.		
2. Includes all children who have been in foster care at least 24 hours (Appendix A - SECTION II). • The State incorrectly includes children in care for less than 24 hours.		2. Modify the program code to exclude children that have been out of their home for less than 24 hours.		
3. Includes all children who are in the placement, care, or supervision responsibility of the title IV-B/E agency that are on "trial home visits" (Child Welfare Policy Manual, Section 1.3, AFCARS Reporting Population, Question #11; 1.2B.7 AFCARS, Data Elements and Definitions, Foster Care Specific Elements, Placements, Question #7).		3. Modify selection logic to include children that are returned home while under the State's placement, care or supervision for a specified period of time, regardless of the length of time of the specified period. 3a. Continue to report the child if after a specified period of time the judge orders another specified period of time for the child to remain home and retains the agency's placement, care or supervision. 3b. For children returned home for		

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		a non-specified period of time, the State must consider the child discharged from care after six months of the return home. 3c. If the child re-enters care under a new court order, then this would be a new removal episode. If there is a "motion to continue the existing court order," then this would continue the existing removal episode.		
Adoption				
[State must]Include all adopted children placed by the agency, and all adopted children for whom the State agency is providing adoption assistance (either ongoing or for non-recurring expenses), or for whom care or services are provided directly or by contract or agreement with other private or public agencies (45 CFR 1355.40(a)(3)). • Report on all children adopted in the State during the reporting period in whose adoption the State has had any involvement. All adoptions after 10/1/94 that meet the criteria below must be reported. Criteria (Appendix B – Section II): a) Children who had been in foster care under the responsibility and care of the		The State must modify the program code and the screens to collect and report information on: > All special needs children, whether or not they were in the public foster care system prior to their adoption and for whom non-recurring expenses were reimbursed. > Children adopted for whom an adoption assistance payment or service is being provided based on arrangements with the State agency.		

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agency. b) All special needs children, whether or not they were in the public foster care system prior to their adoption and for whom non-recurring expenses were reimbursed. c) Children adopted for whom an adoption assistance payment or service is being provided based on arrangements with the State agency.				

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TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS	2			
ACYF-PI-CB-95-09, Reissued May 23, 1995 State extracts all records based on the transaction date of discharge.		The State does not use the transaction date. The State must modify the program code to extract the data based on the transaction date.		